

CONFERENCING NETWORK RESOURCE OPTIMIZATION FOR MULTI-
POINT CONFERENCES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for dynamically cascading MCUs according to gatekeeper and network resource utilization policies. The system comprises local area networks that couple multiple endpoints and multiple MCUs to a resource scheduler, a gatekeeper, and a network resource manager. The network manager determines whether network resources are optimized by cascading MCUs. The gatekeeper includes a cascade optimization module for determining an optimum configuration for cascading two or more MCUs together. The cascade configuration is determined according to the connectivity policies maintained by the gatekeeper.

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